

A
Festival Service for
THE FAMILY OF
TOC H

Saturday, 16 June, 1962
3.30 p.m.



*"Praise the Lord, O my soul, and forget not
all his benefits."*

Psalm 103

THE SUMMER FESTIVAL OF TOC H, 1962

The Order of Service

used simultaneously at the Festival Services in these five churches, where the Worship is led by Padres of Toc H and the Sermons preached by those named below:

ALL HALLOWS BY THE TOWER

The Rev. Austen Williams,
Vicar of St. Martin-in-the-Fields.

THE CITY TEMPLE

The Rev. Edward Rogers, President
of the Methodist Conference, 1960-61.

HINDE STREET METHODIST CHURCH

The Rev. A. G. Knight, Manchester
and North-Western Area Padre, Toc H.

ST. MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS

The Rev. Canon Colin Cuttell,
Field Commissioner of Toc H.

THE TEMPLE CHURCH

The Very Rev. Ernest Southcott,
Provost of Southwark Cathedral.

DURING the final hymn an opportunity will be given to all present to contribute to the Festival Offerings, which will be divided equally, when the expenses of the Services have been met, between the Building Fund of the new Toc H Mark III, Prideaux House, and the Freedom from Hunger Campaign.

THE ORDER OF SERVICE

The Congregation is asked to stand for the Bidding and the Hymns, and to sit or kneel, as desired, to offer Prayer.

When all have taken their appointed places, the Padre shall say:

THE BIDDING

WE have come into the presence of Almighty God and of the whole company of heaven, to offer our prayers, our praise and thanksgiving for all the way that he has led us from the first day until now. Especially we remember with thankful hearts the Elder Brethren whose vision, courage and perseverance helped to bring this family into being. We pray forgiveness for our sins and denials of brotherhood. We ask that God our Father, who understands our human frailty, will over-rule our weakness and strengthen our faith in his purposes for mankind; that where we cannot see the way forward, he will guide us in paths we have not known, making the rough places plain and turning our darkness into light; that the family of Toc H may serve this generation with renewed powers of mind and heart, looking back with thankfulness, but looking forward with hope to new horizons and new tasks in a changing world.

Let us enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise. Let us approach the throne of grace with penitent hearts but also with joy and thankfulness, for his mercy endureth for ever.

The Hymn

Tune: Hanover

○ WORSHIP the King all Glorious above;
O gratefully sing his power and his love;
Our shield and defender, the ancient of days,
Pavilioned in splendour, and girded with praise.

O tell of his might, O sing of his grace,
Whose robe is the Light, whose canopy space;
His chariots of wrath the deep thunder clouds
form,
And dark is his path on the wings of the storm.

This earth, with its store of wonders untold,
Almighty, thy power hath founded of old;
Hath stablished it fast by a changeless decree,
And round it hath cast, like a mantle, the sea.

Thy bountiful care what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;
It streams from the hills, it descends to the plain;
And sweetly distils in the dew and the rain.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,
In thee do we trust, nor find thee to fail;
Thy mercies how tender, how firm to the end!
Our maker, defender, redeemer, and friend.

O measureless might, ineffable love,
While angels delight to hymn thee above,
Thy humbler creation, though feeble their lays,
With true adoration shall sing to thy praise.

AN ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF OUR RESPONSIBILITY

BOTH CORPORATE AND PERSONAL.

Consider how the breath-taking vision of the young Isaiah in the Temple (Isaiah, Chap. VI) is followed swiftly by the realisation of failure and sin. "I am a man of unclean lips and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for mine eyes have seen the King, the Lord of Hosts." In a world much like our own, with its almost insupportable burden of human misery and dire need, the Prophet speaks for us all. We come, therefore, before the throne of grace in this spirit, the spirit of penitence; and we dare to speak for all mankind.

Then shall be said by all:

FATHER, we are no more worthy to be called thy sons. We admit our repeated denials of the Law of Love. You showed us the Truth, and we could not or would not see it; you spoke to us, and your words fell on deaf ears, or else we heard and did not heed; your Spirit tried to show us the way to go, and we chose other, softer paths; you met us on the street in Everyman, and we passed by on the other side; the marks of your Love were all about us, but we were intently looking for other things. . . .

The whole world is guilty of your rejection, and we are just as guilty as the rest. We now confess our sins and, as we ask forgiveness, we also ask for strength to make amends, in deeds as well as words.

A Time of Silence

The two minutes' silence will enable us to think about those things which serve to hinder the loving purposes of God in our own lives and in the life of this our family.

GRANT, we beseech thee, merciful Lord, to thy faithful people pardon and peace, that they may be cleansed from all their sins and serve thee with a quiet mind, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Padre shall add these words of absolution:

MAY the Almighty and Merciful Lord grant unto you pardon and absolution of all your sins, time for repentance and amendment of life, and the Grace and Comfort of His Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

SEEING then, brethren, that we are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our Faith.

(Hebrews XII)

The Hymn

Tune: Dominus regit me

THE King of love my Shepherd is,
Whose goodness faileth never:
I nothing lack if I am his,
And he is mine for ever.

Where streams of living water flow
My ransomed soul he leadeth,
And where the verdant pastures grow
With food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish oft I strayed;
But yet in love he sought me,
And on his shoulder gently laid,
And home, rejoicing, brought me.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill
With thee, dear Lord, beside me;
Thy rod and staff my comfort still,
Thy Cross before to guide me.

Thou spread'st a table in my sight;
Thy unction grace bestoweth;
And O, what transport of delight
From thy pure chalice floweth!

And so through all the length of days
Thy goodness faileth never:
Good Shepherd may I sing thy praise
Within thy house for ever.

THE LESSON

Two portions of scripture from the fourth and sixth chapters of the Second Letter of Paul to the Corinthians. As we listen to the word, we are to think (each one of us) of his own distinctive ministry, enriching and strengthening the whole Body. Every member of The Church worth his salt is truly called and sent.

THEREFORE, having this ministry by the mercy of God, we do not lose heart. We have renounced disgraceful, underhanded ways: we refuse to practise cunning or to tamper with God's word, but by the open statement of the truth we would commend ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God.

For what we preach is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said: "Let Light shine out of darkness" who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.

But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, to show that the transcendent power belongs to God and not to us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies . . .

We look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen; for the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal . . .

Working together with him, then, we entreat you not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he said, "At the acceptable time I have listened to you and helped you on the day of salvation". Behold, now is the acceptable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. We put no obstacle in anyone's way so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way; through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, tumults, labours, watching, hunger.

By purity, knowledge, forbearance, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honour and dishonour, in ill repute and good repute.

We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown and yet well known; as dying, and behold we live; as punished and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

Revised Standard Version.

The Hymn

Tune: Irish

THEY Kingdom come ! On bended knee
The passing ages pray;
And faithful souls have yearned to see
On earth that kingdom's day.

But the slow watches of the night
Not less to God belong;
And for the everlasting right
The silent stars are strong.

And lo, already on the hills
The flags of dawn appear;
Gird up your loins, ye prophet souls,
Proclaim the day is near;

The day in whose clear-shining light
All wrong shall stand revealed;
When justice shall be throned in might,
And every hurt be healed;

When knowledge, hand in hand with peace,
Shall walk the earth abroad;
The day of perfect righteousness,
The promised day of God.

THE SERMON

FAMILY PRAYERS

in which every member of the H is asked to exercise a responsible partnership, by making each prayer his own and by joining in the Amen.

We lift up our hearts in thankfulness to God :

ALMIGHTY GOD, Father of all mercies, we bless thee for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life, but above all for thy great love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ. Give us that due sense of all thy mercies that our hearts may be truly thankful and that we show forth thy praise not only with our lips but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to thy service and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days. *Amen.*

We unite in saying the prayer of St. Richard of Chichester :

(ALL)

THANKS be to thee, my Lord Jesus Christ.
For all the benefits thou hast given me,
For all the pains and insults thou hast borne for
me.

O most merciful Redeemer, Friend and Brother,
May I know thee more clearly,
May I love thee more dearly,
May I follow thee more nearly. *Amen.*

Uppermost in our minds is the world's great need of true peace :

O God, by whose power alone this world order can be saved, lead the nations into the ways of righteousness and peace. Teach their statesmen what things they ought to do and give them grace faithfully to fulfil the same. Grant to thy children, of every race and tongue, freedom from fear and want. Hasten thy Kingdom and the fulfilment of thy perfect will, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

ALMIGHTY FATHER, look with pity upon the nations of men to whom thou has committed great talents in trust, to use for good or evil ends. Preserve us from the abuse of thy gift of nuclear power that it turn not to our ruin. Cast out our fear, renew our faith in thy unchanging purposes for all mankind, lead us in ways of gentleness and along paths of peace in the company of the Prince of Peace, Thy Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*Let us pledge again the service of our lives :
"Whom shall I send and who will go for us?
Then said I : here am I, send me." (Isaiah VI).*

(ALL)

WE lay at thy feet, O Lord Christ, all that we have and are: the gifts of hand and brain, of service and friendship one to another. Take our minds and think through them. Take our lips and speak through them. Take our hearts and set them on fire with love for thee.

(ALL)

TEACH us, good Lord, to serve thee as thou deservest; To give and not to count the cost; to fight and not to heed the wounds; to toil and not to seek for rest; to labour and not to ask for any reward, save that of knowing that we do thy will. *Amen.*

(PADRE)

O THOU who art heroic Love, keep alive in our hearts that adventurous spirit which makes men scorn the way of safety, so that thy will be done. For so only, O Lord, shall we be worthy of those courageous souls who, in every age, have ventured all in obedience to Thy call, and for whom the trumpets sounded on the other side. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

(ALL)

O God, Who hast so wonderfully made THOU, and set men in it to see their duty as thy will, teach us to live together in love and joy and peace; to check all bitterness; to disown discouragement; to practise thanksgiving, and to leap with joy to any task for others. Strengthen the good thing thus begun, that with gallant and highhearted happiness we may work for thy kingdom in the wills of men: through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

And finally, let the pattern prayer of the ages, said slowly and meditatively, gather up all our unspoken longings and deepest aspirations. Through it we lift up our homes, family, friends and work. Every part of life belongs to God.

(ALL)

OUR FATHER

(PADRE)

Now unto him that is able to keep us from falling and to present us faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy. To Him be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. *Amen.*

(Jude 24-25)

The Hymn

Tune: Diademata

During which the offerings will be taken up for the purposes shown in the preface.

CROWN him with many crowns.
The Lamb upon his throne;
Hark how the heavenly anthem drowns
All music but its own:
Awake, my soul, and sing
Of him who died for thee,
And hail him as thy matchless King
Through all eternity.

Crown him the Lord of love;
Behold his hands and side,
Those wounds yet visible above
In beauty glorified:
No angel in the sky
Can fully bear that sight,
But downward bends his burning eye
At mysteries so bright.

Crown him the Lord of peace,
Whose power a sceptre sways
From pole to pole, that wars may cease,
And all be prayer and praise :
His reign shall know no end,
And round his piercèd feet
Fair flowers of Paradise extend
Their fragrance ever sweet.

Crown him the Lord of years.
The Potentate of time,
Creator of the rolling spheres
Ineffably sublime :
All hail, Redeemer, hail !
For thou hast died for me;
Thy praise shall never, never fail
Throughout eternity.

A B e n e d i c t i o n

GO FORTH into the world in peace; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no man evil for evil; love the brotherhood; fear God; honour the Queen. And the peace of God which passeth all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge of Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

